

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-28. (Canceled)

29. (New) A monomeric soluble form of a member of the CD83 family of proteins (monomeric CD83 protein), wherein one or more cysteine residues are substituted with a small and/or polar amino acid residue.

30. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, wherein the one or more cysteine residues are substituted with an amino acid residue selected from the group consisting of serine, alanine, glycine, valine, threonine, lysine, arginine, glutamine, asparagine, glutamate and aspartate.

31. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 30, wherein one or more cysteine residues are substituted with serine.

32. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, wherein the C-terminus of said protein comprises one or more amino acid residues derived from a neighboring intracellular domain.

33. (New) The monomer CD83 protein of claim 32, wherein said protein comprises amino acid residues 20 to 145 of SEQ ID NO:2.

34. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, further comprising the amino acid residues Gly-Ser-Pro-Gly at the N-terminus of said protein.

35. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, which comprises amino acid residues 1 to 130 of SEQ ID NO:8.
36. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, wherein one cysteine residue has been substituted.
37. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29, wherein more than one cysteine residue has been substituted.
38. (New) The monomeric CD83 protein of claim 36, wherein the fifth cysteine residue is substituted.
39. (New) The monomeric soluble CD83 protein of claim 29, which comprises amino acid residues 1 to 130 of SEQ ID NO:10.
40. (New) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding the monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29.
41. (New) A recombinant expression vector encoding the monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29.
42. (New) A prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell transformed/transfected with the nucleic acid of claim 40.
43. (New) A prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell transformed/transfected with the recombinant expression vector of claim 41.
44. (New) A method for producing a soluble form of a member of the CD83 family of protein, comprising culturing the cell of claim 42.

45. (New) A method for producing a soluble form of a member of the CD83 family of protein, comprising culturing the cell of claim 43.
46. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29.
47. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the nucleic acid of claim 40.
48. (New) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the recombinant expression vector of claim 41.
49. (New) A method for treating or preventing a disease or medical condition caused by the dysfunction or undesired function of a cellular immune response involving dendritic cells, T cells and/or B cells, comprising administering to a person in need of such treatment a pharmaceutically suitable amount of the monomeric CD83 protein of claim 29.
50. (New) The method of claim 49, wherein said disease or medical condition is selected from the group consisting of allergies, asthma, rejection of a transplanted tissue or organ, myasthenia gravis, multiple sclerosis, vasculitis, chronic inflammatory bowel disease, Morbus Crohn, colitis ulcerosus, HLA B27-associated autoimmunopathis, Morbus Bechterew, systemic lupus erythematosus, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus and AIDS.
51. (New) The method of claim 50, wherein said disease is multiple sclerosis.
52. (New) A method for treating or preventing a disease or medical condition caused by the dysfunction or undesired function of a cellular immune response involving

dendritic cells, T cells and/or B cells, comprising administering to the a person in need of such treatment a pharmaceutically suitable amount of the nucleic acid of claim 40.